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volume carries the narrative through the period of settlement, the Revolution, the affair of Genet and George Rogers Clark, and the difficulties contemporaneous with the Pinckney Treaty. The Kentucky Resolutions are discussed in an excellent chapter of fifty pages. The next chapters treat of Kentucky's relation to the Louisiana Purchase, the Burr Conspiracy, and the War of 1812. After a briefer handling of the experiences which the State had in banking and "relief," the narrative takes up the War with Mexico. The concluding chapters deal with Clay's later days, the Repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and Kentucky's attempt, in 1860-1861, to occupy a position of neutrality between the North and the South. Dr. McElroy adds an extensive bibliography of Kentucky history and a good index. The illustrations consist of photographic presentations of portraits of Clay, Boone, Wilkinson, and Clark, of documents connected with the story of the Kentucky Resolutions, and of a newspaper reprint of Lincoln's statement to General S. B. Buckner with reference to his policy in regard to Kentucky.

Professor McElroy's work is rather a history of Kentuckians than one of Kentucky. As a narrative of action military and political the book is excellent. One misses the expected analysis, in other fields than finance, of the economic life of the State, and of the interrelation of this life with that of the West as a whole and with that of the nation. For example, there is not a word as to the controversy between Kentucky and Virginia over the rights of the "occupying claimants" under the land laws of Virginia, though the resentment of Kentucky against the adverse decision in this matter of the Supreme Court of the United States led to a most severe attack on the Federal judiciary and to one of the most bitter expressions of States-rights sentiment.

ST. G. L. S.

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PATRICIAN AND PLEBEIAN IN VIRGINIA ; OR THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL CLASSES OF THE OLD DOMINION. By T. J. Wertenbaker. University, Virginia : Published by the author.

More interesting as a compilation of illustrative material than impressive as a contribution to knowledge is Mr. T. A. Wertenbaker's doctoral dissertation. From the Sainsbury Calendar of

State Papers Mr. Wertenbaker has gleaned some valuable notes as to the landgrabbing of the official class in Virginia in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. He has also used to good advantage the accounts of travellers, Hening's Statutes, and the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography ;—though of the last we learn with some surprise that "it throws its influence" on this or that side of a question and that "it says" so-and-so. Beyond these sources Mr. Wertenbaker seems to have drawn chiefly from the writings of John Fiske and, to far better purpose, from those of Dr. Philip Alexander Bruce. There is no evidence that Mr. Wertenbaker has gone to the county courthouses of Virginia to examine for himself the rich materials which these manuscript records afford for social history.

Mr. Wertenbaker develops the now rather familiar thesis that the aristocratic features which characterized Virginia in the period before 1860 were not derived from England but were the product of the economy of the colony itself. He maintains that the Virginia aristocracy was descended from English mercantile families rather than from the families of ancient lineage in the mother country. In a bibliographical note, however, he concedes that Dr. Bruce has amassed a "startling array of individual cases" which indicate the contrary,—a discovery which one would expect to find noticed in the text. A most curious omission is that of any criticism of the concept of antebellum Virginia itself. Mr. Wertenbaker seems to start out with Mr. Thomas Nelson Page's idealization of that truly fine and noble society, which, however, like all others, did not wholly realize its high ideals.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Wertenbaker's grasp of the general history of the colonies is not to be measured by his account of the commercial legislation of England with regard to the American colonies. His statement of the content of the act of 1672, for example, would certainly raise a doubt as to whether he had ever read that act.

ST. GEORGE L. SIOUSSAT.